opinion against international terrorism in general and Pak-proxy war against India in particular?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) International media including those in the United States of America's and the United Kingdom, have regularly carried reports on Pakistan's role and involvement in sponsoring terrorism in India and elsewhere. The US State Department's report on "patterns of global terrorism 1997" mentioned that there continue to be critical reports of official support for Kashmir militant groups that engage in terrorism, such as the 'HUA'. Further in White House briefing the US Assistant Secretary of State for South Asia Mr. Karl Inderfurth stated the question of training terrorists that may operate in Kashmir is the serious question. It is one that we are also concerned about.'

(b) In this address to the UN General Assembly on September 24, 1998, the Prime Minister pointed out that India has had to cope with terrorism, aided and abetted by a neighbouring country, for nearly two decades, and that we have borne this with patience, but none should doubt the strength of our resolve to crush this challenge. Prime Minister drew attention to the fact that terrorism is a threat that affects all of us equally and can only be defeated by organised international action. Prime Minister also reiterated the call made at the Non-aligned Summit in Durban for an international conference in 1999 to develop a collective response to the menace of terrorism. He argued that this conference launch the process of negotiations for an international convention to provide for collective action against States and organisations which initiate, or aid and abet terrorism.

India's standing in UNDP Index

1309. SHRI E. BALANANDAN:
SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether as reported in the Times of India of September 10, 1998, India's standing in human development under UNDP index has slipped down by one notch, from 138 to 139 over the past one year;

(b) if so, what specific elements and factors are taken into account in computing the UNDP index number; and

(c) the reasons to which the down slip is attributable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government have seen the item in the Times of India of September 10, 1998 captioned "India's stand in human development index lower: UNDP". The Human Development Report mentioned in the item is a report published annually by the UNDP Secretariat.

(b) Several specific elements and factors are taken into account in the computation of the Human Development Index. These include longevity, educational attainment and standard of living as measured by real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita (Purchasing Power Parity expressed in US Dollars). For any component of the Human Development Index, the individual indices can be computed according to a specified general formula.

(c) The value of India's Human Development Index has gone up from 0.436 (1996 report based on 1993 figures) to 0.446 (1997 report based on 1994 figures) and to 0.451 (1998 report based on 1995 figures). However, the ranking of India has slipped from 135 (1996 report) to 138 (1997 report) and to 139(1998 report). The main reason for this is a lower rate of improvement in Purchasing Power Parity (PPP), which is highly subjective in computation.